

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 105237
ORIGIN DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /010 R

66011
DRAFTED BY:D/LOS:ABERLIND
APPROVED BY:D/LOS:ABERLIND
-----051650 252119Z /61
R 251921Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO USMISSION GENEVA 1085

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 105237

FOR USDEL LOS

FOLLOWING REPEAT OSLO 2027 ACTION SECSTATE INFO MOSCOW LONDON
BRUSSELS BONN PARIS USNATO DATED APR 24:

QTE:C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 2027

BRUSSELS FOR USEC

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EFIS, PBOR, NO, UR
SUBJ: GON TO IMPLEMENT FISHERIES PROTECTION ZONE MEASURES

REF: (A) OSLO 1624 (B) STATE 22099

1. LOS MINISTER JENS EVENSEN CALLED IN AMBASSADOR APRIL 24 TO
INFORM HIM OF SVALBARD FPZ MEASURES ABOUT TO BE IMPLEMENTED BY THE
GON. THESE MEASURES, ACCORDING TO EVENSEN, ARE IDENTICAL TO THOSE
OUTLINED IN BRIEFINGS FOLLOWING HIS LAST VISIT TO MOSCOW (REFTELS).

2. THE FPZ IS TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN TWO SERIES OF STEPS. FIRST,
NEAFC REGULATIONS CONCERNING A) MINIMUM SIZE FOR COD, HADDOCK
AND SAITHE ARE TO BE ENFORCED FROM MAY 15, 1978 AND B) MESH
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SIZES ARE TO BE ENFORCED FROM JULY 1, 1978 THROUGHOUT THE
SVALBARD FPZ AREA. SECOND, AND ALSO AS OF MAY 15, 1978, A QUOTE
NON-DISCRIMINATORY UNQUOTE PROHIBITION ON ALL FISHING EXCEPT
SHRIMP WILL BE DECLARED AROUND BER ISLAND AND ALONG THE
WEST COAST OF SVALBARD. IN THE LATTER AREA, THE ZONE IS TO
BE 15 MILES WIDE FROM SOUTH CAPE TO 77 DEGREES 30 MINUTES AND
20 MILES WIDE FROM 77 DEGREES 30 MINUTES TO 80 DEGREES.

3. EVENSEN MET WITH THE STORTING FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE TODAY (APRIL 24TH) AND PLANS TO BRIEF THE SOVIET, UK, FRENCH, AND FRG AMBASSADORS AND THE EC THROUGH THE DANES SHORTLY. FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE MEASURES WILL FOLLOW DISCUSSION IN THE KING'S COUNCIL ON APRIL 28.

4. COMMENTING ON ON THE POSSIBLE SOVIET REACTION, EVENSEN SAID THAT HE BELIEVES THE ATMOSPHERE TO BE RIGHT AND THAT THERE WILL BE QUOTE NO PROBLEMS UNQUOTE. HE NOTED THAT GON ENFORCEMENT WILL BE LENIENT AND THAT UNLESS THERE ARE FLAGRANT VIOLATIONS THE GON WILL ISSUE WARNINGS RATHER THAN MAKE SEIZURES, AT LEAST AT THE OUTSET.

5. COMMENT: EVENSEN'S TONE WAS VERY POSITIVE. HE SEEMS TO EXPECT THE SOVIETS NOT TO REJECT THE NORWEGIAN MOVES OUT-OF-HAND. BY NOT DOING SO, THE SOVIETS WILL PERFORCE AT LEAST APPEAR TO ACQUIESCE AS LONG AS THE GON CAN AVOID ANY CONFRONTATION OVER ENFORCEMENT OR JURISDICTION. LERNER UNQTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FISHERIES, FISHING REGULATIONS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE105237
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: D/LOS:ABERLIND
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780177-0318
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780419/aaaaapkp.tel
Line Count: 81
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: ed68bca7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN DLOS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 OSLO 1624, 78 STATE 22099
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2853309
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GON TO IMPLEMENT FISHERIES PROTECTION ZONE MEASURES
TAGS: EFIS, PBOR, NO, UR
To: GENEVA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/ed68bca7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014